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10/822,716

04/13/2004

Ichiro Kataoka

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03/24/2009

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO  
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

SALZMAN, KOURTNEY R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1795

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed March 9, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
  - a. Applicant argues at the bottom of page 4 in the Remarks that the layer of KATAOKA which is surface treated is not on the outermost surface.
    - i. This argument is addressed in the final rejection. INOUE shows it is known to place a discharge treated fluorine-containing polymer in contact with water, without adverse affects. Therefore, locating the discharge treated fluorine-containing polymer layer of KATAOKA et al as the outermost layer would have been obvious.
  - b. Applicant argues at the top of page 5 there is "no teaching or suggestion to increase the weatherability of Kataoka's layer".
    - ii. Using the teaching of INOUE that discharge treatment increases hydrophobicity, it is obvious increased hydrophobicity would increase weatherability by not allowing water droplets to accumulate on the surface causing long term damage. Therefore, a layer of similar properties, as in KATAOKA, would function the same way. The placement of the KATAOKA layer is also discussed in the bullet point above and in the final office action.
  - c. Applicant argues on page 5 that the contact angle is now disclosed.

This argument is addressed in the final office action.

***Conclusion***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KOURTNEY R. SALZMAN whose telephone number is (571)270-5117. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 6:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kaj K Olsen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1795

krs  
3/18/2009